

## Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 STATE 072897

62

ORIGIN NEA-05

INFO OCT-01 CCO-00 RSC-01 SS-15 FILE-01 SSO-00 ADP-00 /023 R

66634

DRAFTED BY/ NEA/ INS: DKUX

4/18/73 EXT 21289

APPROVED BY: NEA: PAB: DCOCHRAN S/ S- O: K. KURZE

----- 106372

O 182221 Z APR 73 ZFF4

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY KATHMANDU IMMEDIATE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE STATE 072897

TODEP-89

FOLLOWING TEL SENT SECSTATE WASHDC INFO DACCA KABUL KARACHI  
LAHORE LONDON NEW DELHI USUN NY FROM ISLAMABAD 18 APR 73  
REPEATED:

QUOTE ISLAMABAD 3097

E. O. 11652 N/ A

TAGS: PFOR, IN, PK, BG

SUBJECT: PAKISTANI REACTION TO INDO- BANGLADESH JOINT  
DECLARATION

REF: STATE 71936

SUMMARY: INITIAL GOP REACTION TO APRIL 17 INDO- BANGLA-  
DESH PROPOSAL ON RETURN OF PAK POWS HAS BEEN CAUTIOUS  
BUT HOPEFUL. GOP SPOKESMEN SEE DELINKING OF POW RETURN  
FROM PAK RECOGNITION BANGLADESH AS SIGNIFICANT STEP  
FORWARD BUT HAVE EXPRESSED CONCERN OVER WAR CRIMES  
TRIALS. PROVISION RE TRANSFER OF BIHARIS TO PAKISTAN  
ALSO LIKELY TO BE PROBLEM. END SUMMARY.

1. GOP- CONTROLLED PRESS HAS REACTED CAUTIOUSLY BUT  
FAVORABLY TO APRIL 17 INDO- BANGLADESH JOINT DECLARATION.  
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 STATE 072897

FRONT PAGE NEWS STORIES ON DECLARATION EMPHASIZED FACT THAT GOI AND GBD HAVE DROPPED PAK RECOGNITION BANGLADESH AS PRECONDITION FOR RELEASE OF POWS. ARTICLES NOTED, HOWEVER, THAT DELHI HAD REITERATED ITS DECISION HAND OVER TO DACCA UNSPECIFIED NUMBER OF POWS FOR "SO-CALLED WAR CRIMES TRIALS". OFFICIAL SPOKESMAN DECLINED COMMENT PUBLICLY ON JOINT DECLARATION, SAYING HE WOULD HAVE TO AWAIT FULL TEXT OF COMMUNIQUE. GOVERNMENT-CONTROLLED WIRE SERVICE, HOWEVER, QUOTED "OBSERVERS" IN ISLAMABAD (READ MFA ON BACKGROUND) AS WELCOMING MOVE BY GOI TO DELINK POW RELEASE FROM PAK RECOGNITION BANGLADESH. BUT SAME OBSERVERS ALSO EXPRESSED "GRAVE CONCERN" OVER POSSIBLE WAR CRIMES TRIALS, WARNING THAT SUCH MOVE "WOULD BE BOUND TO VITIATE THE PROSPECTS OF GOODWILL THAT WOULD OTHERWISE RESULT FROM THE RETURN OF DETAINED AND STRANDED PAKISTANIS". NO EDITORIAL COMMENT AS YET.

2. IN APRIL 18 PHONE CONVERSATION WITH MFA DIRGEN FOR AMERICAS AND WESTERN EUROPE, AKRAM ZAKI, CHARGE NOTED AMBASSADOR MEYER'S TELEPHONE DISCUSSION WITH AMBASSADOR SULTAN KHAN (REFTEL) AND INQUIRED AS TO INITIAL MFA REACTION TO DECLARATION. ZAKI SAID MFA WAS STILL IN EARLY STAGES OF ANALYZING IT. HE NOTED THAT DELINKING POWS FROM RECOGNITION WAS DEFINITE STEP FORWARD. IN RESPONSE CHARGE'S QUERY ABOUT DECLARATION'S REFERENCE TO TRANSFER OF BIHARIS TO PAKISTAN, ZAKI REPLIED THAT THIS "MIGHT" BE PROBLEM. (WE ARE INCLINED BELIEVE MASS TRANSFER OF BIHARIS WILL CONSTITUTE MAJOR DIFFICULTY.) CHARGE SAID WE WERE ENCOURAGED BY NEW INITIATIVE AND EXPRESSED HOPE THAT IT WOULD CONTRIBUTE TO EARLY UNDERSTANDING THAT WAS SO BADLY NEEDED AMONG THE THREE REGIONAL COUNTRIES. ZAKI AGREED KEEP IN TOUCH WITH EMBASSY AS MFA STUDIED PROPOSAL. SOBER UNQUOTE ROGERS

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

\*\*\* Current Handling Restrictions \*\*\* n/a

\*\*\* Current Classification \*\*\* LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** n/a  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 18 APR 1973  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** golinofr  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1973STATE072897  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** DKUX  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** n/a  
**Errors:** n/a  
**Film Number:** n/a  
**From:** STATE  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1973/newtext/t19730445/aaaaircw.tel  
**Line Count:** 103  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE  
**Office:** ORIGIN NEA  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:**  
**Previous Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 73 STATE 71936  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** golinofr  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 26 DEC 2001  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <26-Dec-2001 by martinml>; APPROVED <22 FEB 2002 by golinofr>  
**Review Markings:**

Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
30 JUN 2005

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** <DBA CORRECTED> srp 980122  
**Subject:** PAKISTANI REACTION TO INDO- BANGLADESH JOINT  
**TAGS:** PFOR, BG, IN, PK  
**To:** KATHMANDU  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005